1. Summary
Japan has developed and maintained cordial relations with Bangladesh since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1972, primarily through Japan’s economic cooperation. Together with Bangladeshi people’s warm feeling towards Japan, Bangladesh has a strong expectation for Japan’s ODA. Japan is one of the largest donor countries to Bangladesh.
(Pop.:139.2 millions, GNI/capita:$440, Rate of economic growth:6.3%)

2. Goal and significance of Japan’s ODA
Bangladesh is a moderate Islamic country and is making efforts to promote regional cooperation as the advocate of SAARC. It is important to assist Bangladesh for further sustainable development in order to achieve stability and economic development in the entire region. 36% of Bangladesh’s total population is under poverty line. It is also important to support Bangladesh’s efforts towards poverty reduction to achieve MDGs.

3. Focus Areas
Japan’s Country Assistance Program for Bangladesh was revised in May 2006. The priority areas are as follows;
(1) Poverty Reduction through economic growth
   (private sector development, infrastructure development [transportation and power sector], agriculture and rural development),
(2) Social Development with Human Security
   (education, health, environment, and disaster management),
(3) Good Governance   (central, sectoral and local level).

4. Japanese ODA Loan
Japan has been extending Japanese ODA loans mainly in the area of infrastructure. In FY2008, Japan provided Japanese ODA loans amounting to 39.749 billion yen to Bangladesh. The cumulative amount of Japanese ODA loans to date has reached 680.5 billion yen.

In April 2003, Japan decided to relinquish the Japanese ODA loans of 158.09 billion yen to Bangladesh, based on the UNCTAD resolution in 1978.
5. Grant Aid

Japan has been extending grant aid to Bangladesh mainly in the fields of basic human needs, especially in the areas of agriculture, medical services and disaster management. In FY 2008, Japan provided the grant aid of 4.271 billion yen for Bangladesh. The cumulative amount of Japan’s grant aid to Bangladesh has reached 494.489 billion yen, out of which 256.866 billion yen was given in the form of grant aid for the debt relief. Bangladesh is the largest country receiving Japan’s grant aid in the form of the debt relief.

**Projects FY 2008 (Total: 4.271 billion yen)**

(1) “The Programme for Construction of Multipurpose Cyclone Shelters in the Area Affected by the Cyclone Sidr” (958 million yen):
This project funds to construct the multipurpose cyclone shelters in the areas affected by the Cyclone Sidr, to protect peoples lives at the time of cyclones.

(2) “The Programme for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in Dhaka City toward the Low Carbon Society” (about 1,215 million yen):
This project funds to purchase the waste collection vehicles characterized by low carbon-dioxide emissions to promote the “mitigation” of the climate change through the reduction of the greenhouse gas.

(3) “Food Aid” (850 million yen):
This project provides emergency food aid for Bangladesh to tackle with food price escalation.

6. Technical Assistance

In FY 2008, Japan provided about 2.190 billion yen for technical cooperation to Bangladesh including Development Study. The cumulative amount of Japanese technical cooperation to Bangladesh amounted to approximately 53.631 billion yen by the end of FY2008. Until the end of FY 2008, 5,621 trainees were received in Japan and 1,492 experts were dispatched to.

**Agreement on technical cooperation between Japan and Bangladesh**
In December 2002, the Governments of Japan and Bangladesh signed the Agreement on Technical Cooperation with the aim to promote smooth implementation of the bilateral technical cooperation.

**Project FY 2008**

(1) “Strengthening of Activities in Rural Development Engineering Center Project (Phase – II) (Sep 2007 – Sep 2011)” which aims at strengthening the organization of improving rural infrastructures.

(2) “The Study of Bheramara 450MW Combined Cycle Power Station (Feb 2008 – Jan 2009)” which executes the F/S of constructing the power station for solving a power shortage in Western Bangladesh.

(3) “Safe Motherhood Promotion Project (Jul 2006 – Jul 2010)” which improves mothers’ and babies’ health, through training birth attendants.
Japan’s ODA Projects

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Food Aid (WFP) (Grant Aid)

The Project for the Improvement of the Storm Water Drainage System in Dhaka City (Phase - II) (Grant Aid)

Strengthening of Activities in Rural Development Engineering Center Project (Phase – II) (T/A)

New Haripur Power Plant Development Project (II) (Japanese ODA Loan)

Central Zone Power Distribution Project (Japanese ODA Loan)

Safe Motherhood Promotion Project (T/A)

Eastern Bangladesh Bridge Improvement Project (Japanese ODA Loan)

The Programme for Construction of Multipurpose Cyclone Shelters in the Areas Affected by Cyclone Sidr (Grant Aid)